



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : George A. Provost et al.
Serial No. : 10/725,819
Filed : December 1, 2003

Art Unit : 1732
Examiner : Mark Eashoo
Confirmation No.: 3570
Notice of Allowance Date: February 16, 2006

Title : FORMING DISCRETE FASTENER ELEMENT REGIONS

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

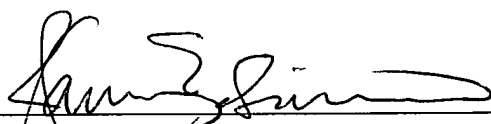
RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

In response to the Notice of Allowance mailed November 16, 2005, enclosed are a completed issue fee transmittal form PTOL-85b and a check for \$1715 for the required issue fee and publication fee, including patent copies.

Please apply any additional charges or credits to our Deposit Account No. 06-1050, referencing attorney docket number 05918-245001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 14, 2006

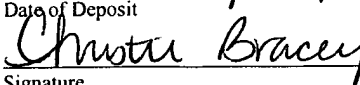

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

February 14, 2006
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Signature
Christine Bracey
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate



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COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicants recognize that, in accordance with M.P.E.P. §1302.14, the Examiner's reasons for allowance need not set forth all of the details as to why the claims are allowed. In the above-referenced application, applicants do not concede that the Examiner's stated reasons for allowance are the only reasons for which the claims are allowable. In particular, applicants do not concede that all of the identified limitations are necessary to distinguish the prior art of record or to satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Furthermore, the claims may be patentable for other reasons. In addition, the dependent claims are allowable on their own merits, and are allowable on the basis of a sub-combination of the recited features of the dependent claims and their respective base claims.

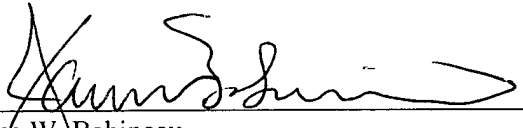
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